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Worldwide Report

TELECOMMUNICATIONS POLICY,
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

No. 180



FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

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TELECOM BUILDING NEW MICROWAVE LINK IN NORTHERN TERRITORY

Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 16 Jul 81 p 31

[Text]

THE Northern Territory will benefit from a new microwave link being built in western Queensland by Telecom.

The \$9 million Roma to Hughenden microwave project will link into the Townsville-Mount Isa-Darwin system, providing an alternative 1800-channel route for telecommunications between Darwin and eastern Australia.

STATIONS

In the event of a breakdown in the coastal communications network in Queensland, Darwin communications could be diverted from Hughenden to Roma and on to Brisbane and other centres.

It would also enable the network to cope with much heavier use to and from Darwin, and provide facilities for non-priority television transmission.

Telecom expects to complete the Roma to

Hughenden link in about two years.

Working north from Roma, 25 microwave towers and repeater stations will be built along the 1200km route through remote country.

Teams of Telecom radio linemen installing foundations for the towers have reached Blackall, about the half-way mark.

The first five guide masts, between Roma and Charleville, have been erected and installation of antennae will start soon.

The equipment buildings, to be located at each repeater site, are being fitted out before being transported to destinations.

Telecom anticipates the Roma-Charleville stage will be completed by about February, reaching Blackall by July, Longreach about the end of next year and finally Hughenden about the middle of 1983.

This microwave system will provide much of the basic structure for automation of the telephone

network in a large part of outback Queensland, a program Telecom aims to achieve by 1990.

Microwave technology has brought most Australians, irrespective of where they live, in touch through the telephone and has been a major factor in the growing use of telecommunications.

In April Telecom connected its five-millionth telephone service in Australia, an increase of 1.3 million customers in just under five years.

NEW TOWNS

Resources development in northern Australia, requiring sophisticated communications, is taking Telecom into sparsely populated areas to meet the needs of industries and towns springing up virtually overnight.

The Roma-Hughenden microwave system will play a key part in this, along with similar systems which are stretching to the north, west and centre of the continent.

CSO: 5500/7544

NEW INTELSAT IV OPTION OPEN FOR TV IN THE OUTBACK

Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 16 Jul 81 p 30

[Text]

PEOPLE in the outback who have waited nearly 25 years longer than most Australians for television, can now tune into the ABC. But the price is high.

The Telesat outback satellite system installed by Hills Industries Limited, has just gone on the market with a price tag of about \$7000.

Telesat, the first commercial system to bring television within reach of hundreds of thousands of people in the outback, will pick up signals from the international communications satellite, Intelsat IV.

The only other systems capable of receiving satellite transmissions in Australia at present are Telecom and OTC receiving stations, using large dish antennas which cost between \$50,000 and \$100,000 each and provide television reception only within a 35km radius.

The Federal Government will eventually establish 52 of the receiving stations, but

Hills' managing director, Mr Bob Ling, says Telesat offers the advantage of being available now.

"If and when an Australian satellite is put into orbit, we expect the Telesat system can be modified to suit," he said.

The system was designed in Perth by an American communications scientist, Professor Taylor Howard of Stanford University, exclusively for Perth-based Australian Microwave Systems.

STANDARD

Professor Howard has been involved with space research for 16 years and is the leader of the NASA Mariner Venus Mercury celestial mechanics and radio-science team.

His Hills Telesat system is the first of its type to be marketed and installed commercially anywhere in the world.

It consists of a five-metre-square curved screen which reflects microwave transmissions of ABC television from Intelsat IV into a collecting horn about seven metres away.

Signals are then amplified, modulated and converted to a lower frequency by a converter unit and fed by co-axial cable to a tunable receiver which plugs into any standard color television set.

The "footprint" of Intelsat IV covers most of Western Australia, South Australia, the Northern Territory, western Queensland and part of NSW.

ABC television programs can be received from Sydney and Perth, and the picture quality in the central area of the footprint is claimed by Hills to be as good as in the average suburban home.

The central area covers roughly an oval which includes Mount Isa, Kalgoorlie, Tennant Creek, Alice Springs, Oodnadatta and Coober Pedy.

Centres in the fringe reception area include Townsville, Tom Price, Port Hedland, Broken Hill and Darwin.

Hills is confident the system will be well-received by outback customers.

BRIEFS

INTELSAT SERVICES STUDY--A study to examine and assess the demand for a growing range of domestic satellite services has been launched by Intelsat. The broad-ranging study will also identify how Intelsat could meet the requirements through dedicated and/or share use satellites. Two thirds of the world's overseas public international telephone and telex services and virtually all overseas television relays are carried on a network of Intelsat IV and IV-A satellites. [Text] [Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 13 Jul 81 p 19]

TELECOM NETWORK ANALYSIS--Control Data has won a contract from Telecom for development and processing of network analysis systems. The company has handled this work in the past, and the latest Telecom decision will mean a five year extension to its earlier contract, which is worth \$2.5 million. It will enable Telecom to continue to develop a network analysis project, used in planning needs in the Australian telecommunications network. The contract also allows Telecom to have access to Control Data's Cybernet time-sharing network, based at the company's new computing centre at Knox. In a prepared statement, Control Data's managing director, Mr John De Beer, said the latest agreement was "an affirmation of the ability of control Data services to supplement existing in-house computing resources in areas where specialised projects and applications are involved." [Text] [Melbourne THE AGE in English 21 Jul 81 p 33]

CSO: 5500/7544

BRIEFS

NORDIC SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS EXPANDED--Antenna No 2 at the Nordic satellite earth station at Tanum is now ready for operation, opening the way for automatic dialing to Iceland via this installation on the coast of Bohuslan [Sweden]. Norway opened direct dialing communication with Iceland on 1 March of this year, but up until now this traffic has been routed via an earth station in West Germany. With operation of the new antenna at Tanum the number of telephone connections via satellite to the United States will be substantially increased. There will be a total of 500 telephone channels to the United States via the two antennas. The Tanum station also connects with South America and Africa. Total capacity is 864 channels, i.e. the total number of simultaneous conversations possible. Norway is gaining direct dialing connections with an increasing number of countries. As of today, there is automatic connection with 64 countries, 32 of them outside Europe. Among European countries, only Romania, Bulgaria, and Albania cannot be dialed directly, and by 1983 only Albania will remain. By next year there will be direct dialing too, among others, Malaysia, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, and Nigeria. The Telecommunications Administration will in time open direct dialing to the entire world, but no time schedule for this has been set. [Text] [Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 3 Aug 81 p 10] 11,256

CSO: 5500/2286

NEW TELEVISION TOWERS DESCRIBED

Sofia IMPULS in Bulgarian 7 Jul 81 p 1

[Text] Engineer Iv. Antakhtov from IPP [Institute for Exploration and Designing] Isproekt shared some thoughts about trends in radio and television building in our country. The rapid development of radio and television in the last 2 decades has posed urgent and above all responsible tasks of a most varied nature before the Engineering Economic Organization. Thirty radio relay stations had to be not only designed, but also built. Ten of them are of the tower type with a mixed purpose. Ten radio and television towers were designed and there is a trend toward speedy construction.

Besides their immediate purpose, broadcasting of radio and television programs, these towers became the most important project of the Ministry of Communications, namely the automation of telephone communications between the okrug towns in the country: AMTOG.

The acquired experience in designing and building the television tower on the Snezhanka peak in the Rhodopes made it possible for the designers and builders to improve further and make cheaper the design of the Ruse television tower, which was rather expensive, difficult to execute, and somewhat lacking in technological sense design. This forced the Isproekt designers and the builders from the building administration [Transtroy] in Ruse to suggest a technologically satisfying and comparatively easily executed design.

The experiment was completely successful.

The television tower in Ruse is 200 meters high and it will actually be the biggest installation of this type, not only in our country, but also in the Balkans. For the first time in Europe the foundations for a thin, tower-like building with the already mentioned height are laid in very poor subsoil conditions (the terrain under the tower is loess). The television tower erected in the locality of Leventa on the axis of Georgi Dimitrov Boulevard will broadcast at first two television programs and will have the capacity to broadcast five television programs in ultra short waves, including one stereo program; it will connect our television with different parts of the world as well as with outer space. Passengers in motor vehicles or trains in a radius of 100 km will be able to make a telephone call to any settlement in the country.

Similar radio-television equipment designed and executed by the departments of ISO [Engineering economic organization] Telekomplekt are already built in Silistra, Belogradchik, Tolbukhin, Razgrad, Tutrakan and other places.

On top of Orelek Peak in the majestic and inaccessible Pirin, at an altitude of more than 2,000 meters, a modern radio-television tower with completely automated controls of the operational processes is under construction. It will cover the whole of Southwestern Bulgaria with television and ultra-short wave programs.

The television tower on Vitosha Mountain, which is under rapid construction, was designed by IPP Isproekt.

The Soviet candidate of technical sciences, Professor Korenev, who recently visited the project, highly appraised the creative audacity of the designers.

The workers and employees of the institute for exploration and designing meet the holiday of the building workers with the proud feeling that they have fulfilled their duty to the radio-television construction in our fatherland, in the designing of which they have invested a part of themselves.



Model of Television Tower in Ruse

ENTEL TEN-YEAR PROGRAM FOR EXPANSION, MODERNIZATION DISCUSSED

Buenos Aires MERCADO in Spanish 25 Jun 81 pp 30-31, 34-39

[Text] Argentina is behind the times in the field of telecommunications. In recent decades, the world has witnessed considerable advances in telephone, telex, mail and telegraph services, whereas Argentina has practically stood still. For example, it is worth noting that a telephone exchange becomes obsolete after 30 years of operation and many domestic exchanges have been in use for nearly 50 years. Five years ago, the Undersecretariat for Communications embarked on a series of projects to reverse this situation. The results are already visible, but a long road still lies ahead. The renovation, expansion and modernization of telephone equipment represents a real challenge for the government; more than 500,000 lines were installed in the last few years and contracts for the installation of 660,000 more lines using an electronic system have already been provisionally awarded to three companies--Standard Electric, Siemens and Pecon-NEC.

This latter program alone will mean an outlay of almost \$190 million, which clearly illustrates the high cost of telecommunications technology. Although there are no doubts concerning the priority of modernizing the sector, the present economic situation and the goals of reducing public spending constitute an obstacle to the implementation of the projects underway.

The telephone system has made notable progress in recent years, although it has still not satisfied the expectations of the domestic market. There are approximately 2.2 million lines in use at the present time. Of this total, 980,000 are controlled by an antiquated life-and-turn switching system, 1.900 million by electromechanical systems employing crossed bars and high-speed rotors, and 30,000 recently installed lines use a semielectronic system. In general, when a telephone exchange has been in operation for more than 30 years, it has exceeded its useful life and becomes obsolete. At the present time in Argentina, more than 320,000 lines have been in use for nearly 50 years and about 165,000 have been operating for 30 to 40 years. There is also an unsatisfied demand for approximately 1 million lines, but this level may be higher, since as General Corrado himself pointed out, there is a potential demand which is unconfirmed due to the problems of filling the most immediate orders. According to government officials, by the end of the decade the number of lines in use will have increased to 2.800 million, which will make a total of approximately 5 million.

The two traditional suppliers of electromechanical equipment, Siemens-Equitel and Standard Electric, are currently carrying out a program for the supply of telephone equipment. This program will be completed in 1982 and about 300,000 lines remain to be installed. The most important news in recent months has been the provisional awarding of contracts for the installation of 660,000 lines using the "Stored-Program Control" or CPA system to these two companies and Pecom-NEC. This program will mean an investment of approximately \$190 million and it is estimated that it can be completed by 1984. Of the 660,000 lines provisionally contracted, more than 50 percent (360,000) will be installed by Pecom-NEC and the remaining 300,000 will be divided equally between Siemens and Standard Electric.

The equipment will be imported in an initial stage and, once in operation, all of the parts for the semielectronic exchanges will be produced within the country. In the case of Pecom-NEC, the proportion may be 55,000 lines imported and 305,000 produced domestically. "Pecom-NEC is working to quickly put its plants into operation," Pecom-NEC General Manager Angel De Giorgi pointed out, "but it is a process which must unavoidably include certain stages, beginning with a national assembly system, that is, the unassembled equipment is brought in and then assembled, tested and put into operation; similarly, our technicians must be trained in this new technology, which also requires a certain amount of time."

But the longer that final contracting is delayed, the more limited a nationally integrated system will be. As Standard Electric's public relations director Jorge Dengis points out, domestic integration is necessarily determined on the basis of the time of delivery; the estimated time for putting the Argentine plants into operation is reduced according to the extent that the final contracts are not formalized.

Electronic exchanges have been in use for years in developed countries and have the same features as those to be installed in Argentina. "This is a clear illustration that the type of technology to be used is of a very high level and proven success," Pecom-NEC's Carlos Ripetta added. "Several million lines have been installed and their operation is excellent." The new exchanges cover the entire country; in a preliminary subdivision process, the northwest was assigned to Standard Electric, the northeast (Chaco, Formosa, Santa Fe and part of Mesopotamia) to NEC and Buenos Aires Province and Patagonia to Siemens. The Cuyo region and Entre Rios, excluded from this assignment, would remain under the control of the Argentine Telephone Company and the Entre Rios Telephone Company, respectively (with regard to the former, see the report published in the financial section of this same issue).

In principle, the projects will start in the city of Buenos Aires, beginning with the downtown section and followed by the central area and suburbs. They will consist of renovating and enlarging exchanges; renovation is the most important task in the immediate future, as there are exchanges which are almost 50 years old and the obsolescence of some equipment is alarming. According to De Giorgi, present exchanges with about 10,000 subscribers can be enlarged to handle 40,000, i.e., an increase of 400 percent for the present telephone plant. An additional volume of 880,000 lines could be expected by the end of the decade and the oldest exchanges could not be more than 25 years old.

Under the CPA system, exchanges will introduce startling innovations in communications. Since computers will be handling such calls, communications possibilities will be expanded at the same time that new operations are being performed: for example, calling

another predetermined subscriber by dialing only one or two digits (i.e., there will be a memory for numbers used most often); calling one's own number automatically at a certain hour (wake-up service); the possibility of one subscriber communicating with another predetermined subscriber by merely lifting the microtelephone without performing any additional operation on his telephone set (direct call); limiting communications to the urban or interurban area; or any combination of such innovations, depending on individual needs (blocking of long-distance calls), and other services such as telephone orders or transfers. "Along with this equipment and its amazing possibilities, of course, other key sectors of the area must also work, such as the digital communications system," Dengis emphasized.

With regard to digital communications, officials of the Undersecretariat for Communications have reported that the projects are being completed within the deadlines set and that the results of this new system will soon be visible. Communications routed through the three new traffic centers, Munro, Monte Chingolo and Ramos Majia, will greatly improve service, mainly for subscribers in the urban area. These projects are being carried out at the same time that the present automatic exchanges of Belgrano, Flores and Barracas are being replaced, forming a network of six switching centers.

Although the telephone sector is the form of telecommunications most urgently in need, other aspects also require the renovation of equipment and, in some cases, the incorporation of new technology. One informal agreement, among others, has been signed for the supply and installation of an undersea cable to connect the cities of Lagos (Portugal), Dakar (Senegal) and Recife (Brazil). Operation of this communications link will be assigned to an international consortium including Argentina, Brazil, Senegal, Ivory Coast, FRG, Italy, France, Switzerland, Great Britain and Portugal. The agreement will be formalized sometime this year and will make it possible to expand international services considerably. ENTEL [National Telecommunications Company] is in turn planning to install a public international facsimile system and to establish the bases for its use in Argentina. At the same time, a study is also being conducted for putting into operation an experimental optical-fiber link to route telephone traffic between the Burzaco and Adroque exchanges.

With regard to telex communications, a modernization plan is being studied for the installation of 40 exchanges over the next 3 years. In another area, ENCOTEL [National Mail and Telegraph Company] is incorporating new postal mechanization systems for handling mail of nonstandard format, or printed matter in general, as well as for international formats, which will be processed in the Retiro International Postal Center. The installation of automatic postage vending machines will soon get underway, making it possible to purchase stamps when post offices are closed. In these new branch offices, users will be able to purchase stamps and mail their letters without the assistance of ENCOTEL personnel.

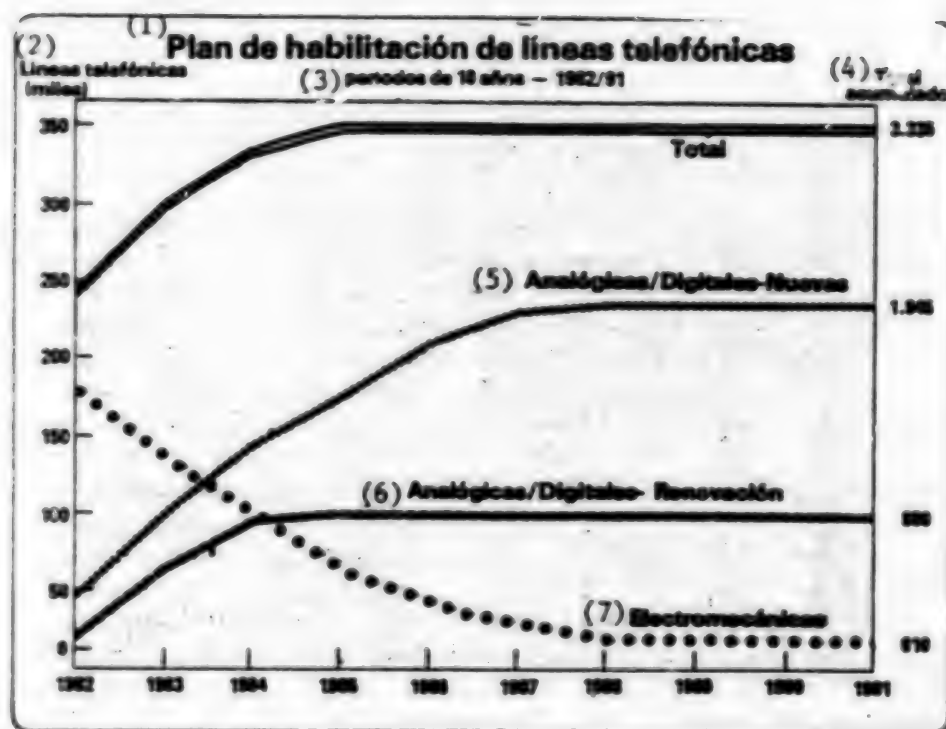
An interdisciplinary committee, including representatives of the three armed services, is studying the usefulness and advisability of implementing a national satellite communications system. Studies have been underway since 1979 and one of their first results is the Sovereignty Plan which, with ENTEL's assistance, provides a model ground infrastructure for using the INTELSAT [International Telecommunications Satellite Organization] V satellite. However, as General Corrado emphasized several days ago, INTELSAT's use is independent of the communications system, since the latter

will be operated and administered exclusively by Argentina. Although no date has been set for its inauguration, it is estimated that the system can be put into operation before the end of the decade.

The projects underway are undoubtedly a good sign that the country is getting in step with the rest of the world in the field of telecommunications. But the renovation, modernization and expansion of equipment entail considerable expenditures and at present the government's aim is to reduce public spending as much as possible. As stated, the installation program for 660,000 lines using electronic exchanges will mean an outlay of approximately \$190 million; although it has been reported that this amount of debt would be controllable, it is certain that ENTEL would have a liability of \$350 million. The Ministry of Economy recently stated that "government investments would be relativized, while respecting the priorities of projects in progress." This would not represent an obstacle to the telephone modernization program mentioned previously, but what will happen to the rest of the projects which the Undersecretariat for Communications wants to carry out? The latest devaluations will also have their impact, since many of the new telecommunications systems will be entirely imported.

Perhaps one solution--which has been mentioned repeatedly in private and government circles--is for some services to be privately owned. Economic officials themselves have pledged to speed up peripheral private ownership of ENTEL, the Public Data Communications Network (which would amount to about \$22 million), the Data Bank System and maintenance services for the regional links and new exchanges which ENTEL has planned to provide in the near future. However, some directors of private companies in the sector have voiced their concern over the delay in making decisions which would speed up the accomplishment of these goals and reduce the "extra" problems caused by such delays.

It is certain that the more the country puts off developing its telecommunications systems, the more problems it will have in becoming part of a world that is growing rapidly throughout that area. Thus the effort entails being able to successfully combine the sector's objectives and the country's economic reality, which will mean achieving a perfect balance.



Key:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Plan for Supply of Telephone Lines | 5. Analog/Digital--new |
| 2. Telephone lines (thousands) | 6. Analog/Digital--renovation |
| 3. 10-year periods--1982/91 | 7. Electromechanical |
| 4. Cumulative Total | |

11915

CSO: 5500/2255

RADIO HABANA CUBA BROADCASTS TO FISHING FLEETS

Havana MAR Y PESCA in Spanish May 81 pp 34-35

[Interview with Radio Habana Cuba program director Orlando Castellanos by Jorge Julio Gonzalez: "Twenty Years of Radio Habana Cuba: On the Seas of the World"; date and place not given]

[Text] "This program is especially dedicated to Cuban fishermen and members of the merchant marine, to seamen and fishermen all over the world and to all listeners tuned to Radio Habana Cuba...."

This is how "Cuba on the Seas of the World," a radio program that is winning the affection of the crews of our fleets, begins each week. For 13 minutes the message from the yearned-for fatherland reaches them through interviews with comrades in the business and relatives, news items and various topics having to do with their occupations.

But do you know, dear listener, how the idea for this program came into being, how it was put together? For these details we have to go to the other end of the receiver, where Radio Habana Cuba's program for seamen is generated.

The Hunted Hunter

Orlando Castellanos has hundreds of interviews to his credit as an experienced journalist, many of them as director of "Cuba on the Seas of the World." Perhaps this is why he seems to be so nervous now that he himself is faced with questions;

[Question] Orlando, one of the reasons for our visit to Radio Habana Cuba is precisely because now, this May, the station is 20 years old. Could you sum up for us the significance of this great effort?

[Answer] Radio Habana Cuba's basic task, and also its great merit, is to contribute to bringing the truth about the Cuban revolution to the world. For these 20 years the station has been an effective weapon in the battle Cuba is waging against imperialism in the domain of ideas. To give you an idea of the size of this effort, I tell you that at the present time its programs are broadcast in eight languages on a high political, ideological and professional level, often simultaneously, and comprise 66 hours and 10 minutes of broadcast time a day.

[Question] Cuban seamen know very well, Orlando, what it means to be separated from the land of their birth for months on end. As you know, on the high seas any news from home is a real event. Now how does this fact tie in with the work engaged in by Radio Habana Cuba?

[Answer] Our files jealously guard a letter dated in May 1961, a few days after the station officially went on the air, that speaks for itself in connection with that. The letter in question came from Rotterdam, Netherlands, and was signed by Miguel A. Binelo, the radiotelegrapher of the Cuban motorship, Las Villas. In it, word for word, Binelo reports: "When our ship was north of the Azores on 1 May of this year, we listened to the description of the International Workers Day celebration from the beginning in the early hours of the morning until the end during the night.... We can assure you that the 17 ships of our fleet, which are at present sailing all the seas of the world, daily listen to Radio Habana Cuba."

[Question] This is without a doubt a historic document.

[Answer] I need hardly tell you that this letter and others like it were behind the creation of a program especially dedicated to the men of the sea. First, a program was beamed to members of the merchant marine, one which was broadcast from 1962 to 1971. Then there was a digression. But now, since the end of 1980, we have begun to broadcast the program again on a more extensive scale, one which includes fishermen as well.

[Question] And what about the future of "Cuba on the Seas of the World"?

[Answer] Our plans are to increase contact between seamen and their relatives on land since this is a program line that has been very popular. We are also going to begin to establish communication with some ships at sea, then later play the tapes back on the program. And lastly in our planning we will constantly strive to achieve the quality that all our workers at sea deserve.

"Cuba on the Seas of the World" Program Schedule
(until September 1981)

Broadcasts for North, Central and South America and the Caribbean

Sunday 0630 (EST)

16m 17,705 kHz	16m 17,750 kHz	19m 15,230 kHz
25m 11,760 kHz	31m 9,550 kHz	31m 9,770 kHz

Sunday 1103 (EST)

16m 17,705 kHz	16m 17,750 kHz	19m 15,230 kHz
25m 11,760 kHz	31m 9,550 kHz	31m 9,770 kHz

Sunday 1730 (EST)

25m 11,970 kHz	25m 11,760 kHz	31m 9,770 kHz
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Monday 1400 (EST)

16m 17,750 kHz	31m 9,770 kHz
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African Area

Sunday 1345 (EST)

16m 17,705 kHz

19m 15,385 kHz

Mediterranean Area

Sunday 1445 (EST)

16m 17,710 kHz

19m 15,230 kHz

Monday 0445 (EST)

19m 15,230 kHz

("The Voice of Cuba" is also on the air Mondays at 0200 hours on the frequencies used by Radio Liberacion and Radio Rebelde.)

11,466

CSO: 5500/2282

DETAILS ON CCCE AID FOR THOMSON PROJECT GIVEN

Tananarive MADAGASCAR-MATIN in French 21 Jul 81 pp 1, 2

[Text] TELECOM-Sud-Est will be the most modern network in Africa and one of the most modern in the world.

But before it becomes operational, and in order to ask for the blessing of the Zanahary and the Razanas, a "joro" ceremony was celebrated Saturday morning at the Tolagnaro posts and telecommunications offices before the erection of the towers and the installation of the antennas necessary to the project.

Among those on hand were CSR [Supreme Revolutionary Council] members Marojama Razanabahiny, Jean de Dieu Randriantanany, Max Marson; the minister of foreign affairs, Christian Remi Richard; the head of the Central Fund for Economic Cooperation [CCCE] (France), Manuel Bridier; the DGA [expansion unknown] of Thomson DHF, Coffinet, along with some of the company's technical engineers, representatives from the ministries of PTT [posts, telegraphs, and telecommunications] and information... as well as elected officials.

CSR member Marojama Razanabahiny, president of the infrastructure committee, in a short speech, put the emphasis on the cooperation which should be inaugurated between friendly countries. He thanked both CCCE, which originated this project, as well as the French and Malagasy technicians who have worked on it, for, he said, "no one thought that towers would be built in this formerly outcast region that was forced to live in autarky. This means hope for the inhabitants, he concluded, because they are going to be in the vanguard of international communications."

Construction of the TELECOM-Sud-Est project, which is being carried out by the Thomson company, is to cost 5.5 billion Malagasy francs. According to Mr Coffinet, this is one of the biggest wireless beam projects in the world, for its range is over 1,400 km (Fianarantsoa, Manakara, Farafangana, Mananjary, Tolagnaro) with 45 stations, and covers both television and telecommunications with the most modern equipment. The project also is to result in a reduction of energy costs (fuel and oil), as in various locations these combustibles will be replaced by solar energy.

The "joro" which took place last Saturday marks the end of the civil engineering phase of the work. Very soon the technicians are going to erect the towers (40 meters high at Tolagnaro) and the antennas, which will be done by the end of the year. And toward the end of the first half of 1982, the Fianarantsoa-Tolagnaro

link will be completed, to be joined 3 months later with Toliara, in order to grid the southern region (we note that TELECOM-Sud recently went into operation).

Still according to the Thomson DFH DGA, TELECOM-Sud-Est is a very economical operation: its reliability is very high, as it is only predicted to break down once every...30 years. That is to say that the operation and maintenance of the project are very economical.

9516
CS0; 5500/5060

SOVIET AID TO IMPROVE RADIO RECEPTION REPORTED

Tananarive MADAGASCAR-MATIN in French 31 Jul 81 pp 1, 2

[Text] "This is Malagasy Radio and Television [RTM] broadcasting from Imerintsiasika."

For 20 minutes yesterday morning RTM listeners were able to listen to a direct broadcast from Imerintsiasika, on the 433-meter band, as the medium-wave broadcasting center which is the result of Soviet-Malagasy cooperation amounting to FMG 500 million was officially opened. The actual inauguration was preceded by a tour of the facilities, the diesel equipment room, the 238-meter high transmitting tower, the main building where the studio and airing take place, as well as the broadcasting room where the official ceremony took place.

A rather short ceremony, moreover, because the Soviet delegation had to return shortly afterward to Ivato airport as they ended their visit to Madagascar.

After the national anthems of our two countries, speeches were made in turn by the Presicomex of the Arivonimamo fivonaronana, by the Soviet vice-president of the state committee for external economic relations, and by the minister of information, ideological motivation, and relations with Georges Ruphin institutions.

Meaningful Words

The Presicomex of Arivonimamo expressed the great pleasure of the people of the fivondronana at seeing the installation at Imerintsiasika of this station "which is an instrument in the service of the Malagasy socialist revolution and the fruit of Soviet-Malagasy cooperation." He said that for us collaboration is not an empty word.

This station, he emphasized, will also encourage our two peoples to become closer, and will also bring closer together the people of the big cities and the rural world. And he expressed his thanks to the revolutionary regime.

Instrument of Peace

The Soviet vice-president for his part spoke of the importance of the Imerintsiasika station, which is the fruit of Soviet-Malagasy cooperation and which is an instrument for peace.

All the equipment of this medium-wave broadcasting station was dispatched to Madagascar in record time. Its 238-meter tower with 150 kW power will provide high-quality broadcast reception over the entire extent of Malagasy territory.

After having mentioned the role of radio as a mass media, the Soviet vice-president asserted that it was a powerful weapon for motivating people.

From now on, he said, the world will know the truth about Madagascar and the Malagasy people will be more abreast of the international situation.

He expressed the hope that this equipment, put at the disposal of the Malagasy revolution and the people, which was installed with the help of the good cooperative efforts of the Soviet and Malagasy technicians, will fulfill its expectations.

Historic Site

Minister Georges Ruphin, representing the revolutionary regime, expressed his personal pleasure at seeing the Soviet delegation, which had participated in the second meeting of the intergovernmental commission at the end of its visit to Madagascar, at the inaugural ceremony for the medium-wave broadcasting station.

He provided some technical data, mentioning that the broadcasting station, the fruit of Soviet-Malagasy cooperation, had a power output of 150 kW.

This site is of historical note, he said, because while in the past it may have been used for space espionage--which doubtless was of no use to the Malagasy people--now it has become the site of the broadcasting station for the improvement of RTM reception, which has direct impact on the life of the people.

Modern Technology

Must it be recalled, he said, that the signing of the proposal for this project took place in 1976 with the Soviet Institute of State Research? The total cost of the equipment amounted in all to FMC 500 million, and the Malagasy share which provided the civil engineering work, included the EGC [expansion unknown] and SECREN [Naval Construction and Repair Company], under the direction of the "DINIKA" company.

The civil engineering work began in October 1979 and the station has been equipped with the most modern technology. Its great power makes it possible to provide good reception in a radius of more than 250 km during the day, and around 600 km during the night.

Presently, he said, we are busy putting up medium-wave relay stations almost everywhere so that all those who could only receive RTM on short-wave may benefit from good reception and thus better understand revolutionary directives. Thus, he continued, rumors circulating in the streets will no longer grip the people because they will be quickly belied by the factual news given out by the radio that all will be able to hear, and the consciousness-raising of the undecided and bureaucrats who are scarcely interested in the revolution will take place more easily, "to enable us," he said, "to devote ourselves to the building of the socialist paradise."

Also, he continued, thanks to the broadcasting station, ideological motivation will have more impact on the majority of the population.

Speaking to the Soviet delegation, which has just provided the station, he said that this was only the first step for cooperation between our two countries in the field of information, for it will ultimately expand even further. In conclusion, Minister Ruphin asked the decentralized communities to work to defend this revolutionary achievement against the agitations of reactionaries and those with evil intentions.

We note that CSR member Arsene Ratsifehera, the ministers Christian Remi Richard and Gisele Rabesahala, and Ambassadors Leonid Moussatov and Frederic Randriamamounjy were also present at the ceremony.

9516

CSO: 5500/5060

SATELLITE TV TECHNICAL PROGRESS AHEAD OF POLITICS

Bonn RHEINISCHER MERKUR/CHRIST UND WELT in German 19 Jun 81 p 18

[Article by Guenther Roessler, Deutsche Welle technical director and satellite expert for the ARD (Working Pool of FRG Broadcasting Corporations): "Technology Is Faster Than Politics"]

[Text] The imminent introduction of satellite-television is accompanied by a trend similar to that observed several decades ago with the rise of ultrashort wave radio. At that time, when radio sets were still equipped with tubes, ultrashort wave programs had a very short range. The introduction of transistor technology led to ultrashort wave programs with a much greater range. Thus, for example, ultrashort wave programs from the Southwest Broadcasting Station in Baden-Baden are heard clearly in the middle of the listening area for the West German Broadcasting Station in Cologne--a circumstance not at all in line with the original planning.

A parallel trend is now developing for satellite-television. Thus the World Administrative Radio Conference held in Geneva in 1977 accorded each country the right to operate a five-channel radio and television satellite with direct broadcast. (These satellites, which should be ready to operate by the mid-1980's, can broadcast for the first time directly from space to the receivers in each and every home by using new types of roof antennas and transformers--thus without the still customary detour by way of giant ground stations). And although in 1977 the assumption was still prevalent that the transmitting power of each satellite would be just sufficient to allow good reception of its programs in its own country, technology has in the meantime already left this stage behind. For, meanwhile, receiving antennas have been greatly improved. Thus a German television program by satellite could not only be picked up as far away as Ascona or Klagmfurt--as originally thought--but with improved receiving antennas from London to Rome and from France to the Polish border as well, with somewhat diminished quality of course. Naturally, programs from most of the other European countries could likewise be seen in Germany. Satellite programs from eight European countries (Belgium, Germany, England, France, Italy, Luxemburg, the Netherlands, Austria and Switzerland) can be picked up using a parabolic antenna with a diameter of 2 meters. If each of these countries could 1 day actually produce five television programs, then one could receive 40 programs in Germany, and in the Cologne area there would even be 70 satellite programs.

Still, as before, it appears that the FRG will be the first nation to launch one of the new-type television satellites with direct broadcast. The television satellite, developed jointly by Germany and France, is to be sent into space in 1984 aboard a European Ariane-rocket. As an experiment it will transmit on two channels programs for the ARD and the ZDF (Second German Television Program) as well as 16 radio programs on a third channel. Later, in the operational phase, a satellite with a total of five channels is to transmit an additional program for both the ARD and ZDF. The ZDF has already applied to the prime ministers of the German Laender for the right to use a second channel, whereas the ARD is now considering a similar step.

Although the present conventional broadcasting network will continue to exist even after the introduction of satellite-television in the FRG, it is expected that satellite-television will immediately achieve an audience of millions: The approximately 3 to 5 million households now receiving their television programs over cable by means of parabolic antennas can, with the aid of new parabolic antennas, be converted quickly to satellite reception. The post office now demands DM 120 million annually from the ARD and ZDF for using its broadcasting network. But with transmittal by satellite the net costs for the post office would be only about DM 10 million annually for a program.

The question of whether or not an excessive supply of television programs is at all acceptable is not technical, but political and psychological, especially considering that the average time watching television in Germany of a good 2 hours daily is showing a tendency to decline. And although the political, social and economic consequences of the now forthcoming television via satellite and cable are as yet totally undigested, the technicians are already taking another step into the future. Thus a "High Definition System" is presently being deliberated, by which programs will be conjured to home viewing screens with greatly improved image resolution and color as compared with before. In addition, systems are being developed where the sound quality of satellite transmissions is to be adapted to that of the new digital recordings. On the other hand, however, inexpensive radio satellites of the sort needed by developing countries cannot be delivered. The appropriate frequencies for this purpose are already taken.

9746

CSO: 5500/2250

PILOT PROJECTS IN CABLE TELEVISION

Frankfurt/Main FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE in German 17 Jul 81 p 4

[Article: "'Sliding Start Into Cable Television. Model Tests in Bavaria/Constitutional Legal Obstacles"]

[Text] Fin. Munich, 16 July--The commission which is preparing for a cable television model test in Munich, on instructions from the Bavarian Land Government, is pressing for speed. The chairman, Professor Witte, hinted to journalists that a pilot project only makes sense if it is completed before the politicians make their decision. Technical preparations require 1 1/2 years. The German Federal Post Office is working closely with the commission and is ready to set up the technical grid required by the "new office" planned by the commission as rapidly as possible.

The commission recommends a "sliding start" and proceeding from an easily realizable proposal at first to a "very demanding" proposal. As a first step it is planned to install the grid on existing common antenna installations and to offer 12 programs which, depending on the age of existing television sets, will be totally or partly received. Consideration is being given to additional reception of Wuerttemberg and Swiss broadcasts, of productions by the movie industry, and of local programs. In the final phase of the pilot project, moreover, it is supposed to be possible to receive certain transmissions "on subscription" as well as newspaper and magazine texts. Following completion of the "technical center," a computer center, the participants are to be able to "intervene actively in the program structure" by making their wishes known and, by individual payment, calling to request certain performances. Because of this "individualization" praised by the commission, a large number of channels is recommended. Witte expressed the view that those who want to determine the value of an action should carry it out and should not disregard it. "We shall take skeptics as well as enthusiasts at their word."

Inasmuch as Bavaria is the only Land in the FRG in which the public legal structure of broadcast institutions is a constitutional matter, the legal problems are particularly significant. Their examination has not been completed. Professor Lerche spoke, however, of "room for action" in which all sorts of possible activities are allowed by the applicable article of the Bavarian Constitution.

On the other hand, the SPD spoke in this connection of "anticipated commercial television." The commission's report confirms fears expressed several times by the Bavarian SPD that the commission perceives its task as a purely technocratic one. It quite apparently asks only what is feasible and not what is desirable. The commission lacks any sort of problem consciousness with regard to the risks of the new media. It considers as self-evident that, "from show to boxing match," everything will be broadcast and that the producers will be allowed to structure their own broadcasts.

5586

CS0: 5500/2270

DISSENSION SLOWS PROGRESS OF CABLE TV

Frankfurt FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE in German 21 Jul 81 p 5

[Article: "Disagreements Among the Laender Delay Progress of Cable Pilot Projects."]

[Text] schu. Frankfurt, 20 July--Testing of cable television in four test areas was the most far-reaching recommendation of the telecommunications report submitted by Professor Witte in 1976 to the "Commission for the Setting Up of Technical Communications Systems" formed in 1974. The basic agreement reached by the prime minister concerned with this question on 11 May 1978, for the locations Munich, Dortmund, Berlin and Mannheim/Ludwigshafen, appeared to announce an early realization. Two years later, in November 1980, the prime ministers again confirmed at Kronberg--albeit under changed political conditions--their common and basic resolution, which had been reached unanimously at one time; they went one step further and settled the financing. The citizen is supposed to participate in the costs to the extent of 20 pfennigs, to be levied through the radio fee.

For 1982, as Bavaria has now let it be known, a "sliding entry" into the Munich cable television project will be striven for. The 2-year time-beat intimates a certain constancy in the planning. Nevertheless, in the meantime 5 years have passed since Witte's recommendation. This has changed the initial position. The "cable pilot projects" became "political projects." The question was posed: "Are these tests still required?"

Boerner's Bailout

The first one who "bailed out" of the project in 1976, still in the first stage of discussion, was the Hessian Prime Minister Boerner (SPD). At that time the city of Kassel was mentioned for a limited time as one of the possible locations for cable television tests. The discussions about North German Radio (1978-1980) strengthened the interest of Lower Saxony's Prime Minister Albrecht (CDU) in the so-called new media. He had the "Kronberg resolution" by the prime ministers on the common financing of "pilot projects for cable television" extended by a protocol note "that further radio political decisions of the Lands outside the framework of the pilot projects are not excluded."

Almost at the same time, in Baden-Wuerttemberg Prime Minister Spaeth (CDU) was dissociating himself step by step from the projected Mannheim/Ludwigshafen double test. After initial statements ("I am not getting involved in this adventure without

the possibility of getting out of it"), he set up a commission of experts to investigate the media climate in Baden Wuerttemberg; their final report in 1980 resulted in the preparation of their own Land media law. Spaeth's ideas are based on inclusion in the tests of cities and localities which are already cabled. In Ulm, parts of Stuttgart, Tuttlingen and Villingen-Schwenningen broad-band cable installations have already been partially installed. The locality Unterkirnach in the Black Forest is fully cabled. Spaeth wants to take advantage of this situation and more: For the past few days a working group made up of responsible officials of broadcasting installations and newspaper publishers has been preparing plans for joint television and radio transmission.

The cable television tests grew out of two initial situations. The proportional allotment which was the basis for the original distribution between two Laender ruled by the SPD and two by the Union has fallen by the wayside as a result of the changed political situation. The delaying attitude toward future possibilities of the technology has been canceled by its dynamic further development. The Post Office has invested many millions of marks in readying the communications grid; private firms are spending hundreds of millions for this development; nearly 1 billion will be expended in the next few years for new long-distance communications grids; new and more rapid communications between computers of firms and central data banks as well as the extension of the telephone grid (by 1986 the Post Office expects to have 2 million major telephone connections in the FRG) are being pushed forward; the full cabling of the FRG is likely to, and this is a calculated total sum, cost 60 billion marks. The federal political factor plays a considerable role in extension of the communications grid, even if the radio sovereignty of the Laender appears to be unaffected in the immediate future.

The prime ministers do not want interference in their areas of competence. Their stated wish is to participate in these decisions, to maintain the federative system; there is to be no uniform, inflexibly fixed way into the future of the media; it is to be manifold and individual. The concept is: early carrying out of cable television tests--they should neither be stopped nor halved. The reasons for the early beginning of pilot projects, desired less by the SPD-ruled Laender than those led by the Union, were given at the "Munich Circle," a supranational association for communications research. The tests are in the stage of realization; they will reveal the technical progress and the possible dangers. Professor Witte says: "All four pilot projects have their own characteristics. They are all necessary."

The step from a large-scale traditional common antenna installation to a cable television installation is relatively simple technically: the situation in the FRG is paradoxical: although there are a number of cable television installations, there is no cable television. The economic and legal questions are difficult; of media-political significance is the proliferation of programs which has become technically possible. The principle of balance will not be realized in cable television by making every program balanced in itself. The competition of programs with a well-defined slant confronts such "internal pluralistic" endeavors with an "external pluralistic" factor; the totality of programs in electronic media approximately corresponds to the present situation in the press.

Points of View Brought Closer Together

Opponents of private programs refer to verdicts by the Federal Constitutional Court, insist on staying with the public legal form of organization, and remind us at

the same time that in the past 5 years points of view have been coming closer together. The one side has gradually given up on the so-called "breaking up" of the broadcast monopoly. The other no longer resists with all its might the program proliferation made possible by private sponsors. The formula for the compromise thus becoming delineated is private program sponsors under the roof of a special legal format where overall responsibility lies.

The cable television tests are not limited to the last phase of the laying of coaxial or glass fiber broad-band cables to cover the area. The financing is concerned with equalization among the Laender and the expenditure considered necessary in the test areas. It is concerned with investment costs of the Post Office (which has agreed to lay the remaining required cables), of the equipment industry (which will make its equipment available on time at the beginning of the tests), the program and personnel costs, and the means for accompanying scientific investigations. The costs for the participants, which are stated to be DM 400 per household, with an additional [DM] 5 and--according to the nature of the program schedule--a further DM 13 in monthly fees, will be booked on the credit side, just as advertising is. Costs cannot be recovered if there are 10,000 participants per test area, according to an estimate; the system would become profitable only for 30,000 participants. An extensive silence about the total costs is observed. Figures are blurred, with an exact cost analysis not available. "The cable dime," according to Professor Langenbucher, once a member of the "Commission for the Setting Up of Technical Communications Systems," will not pay for the tests. Consequently, it cannot be assured that new communications techniques will be tested; instead, there would merely be more television and radio programs and not the technical and therewith program content renewal.

The Laender attempt to take this into account in their plans. Most advanced is the Ludwigshafen model, which is supposed to start on 1 January 1983, a year later than Munich. The Landtag in Mainz passed a law for this in November 1980. Private program sponsors can also obtain a program broadcasting license in the planned public body (The Federal Association of German Newspaper Publishers participates with DM 10 million). The proposed program, besides the locally customary television and radio programs to be received, is to have 14 additional television channels for supplementary programs of various sponsors, an "open channel," a technical information exchange via "cable text," video text, screen text, satellite radio, and a return channel; there will be advertising on certain channels within a certain time-limited scope. The uncovered costs are estimated at about DM million; 30,000 households are to participate.

Following a brief look at Cologne and Wuppertal, the Land of North Rhine-Westphalia has decided on a city district of Dortmund with 10,000 households and 37,000 inhabitants as the location for the cable television test; a statute to this effect will be submitted to the Landtag after the summer recess. The radio official in the Duesseldorf Chancery, Hochstein, connects the demand for "being able to get programs back" with the point that the supplementary programs would be cut off in case the tests have negative results. A broad-band cable for 21 television and 18 radio channels is to be installed. In addition to the locally customary 6 television programs received, there will be 3 local programs of West German Radio, 3 of the Second German Television, 3 third programs, a channel for cable texts, a return channel, further channels for video text, screen text and a separate one for

individual use--for example, for surveillance of playgrounds from the home. Financing has not been clarified. The organizational structure is to be one of an institution under law applying to public bodies. In this, the only planned test under SPD leadership, the effects of cable television, its acceptance and only to a lesser extent the technology are to be tested.

Berlin Principles

The deliberations of the Senat in Berlin go back to 1977. The principles formulated at that time have been filled up "with content" in a study by Professor Langenbucher; the political decision of the Senat is still outstanding. In the meantime the concept provides for a corporation under public law yet to be founded, with the possibility of participation by private program sponsors. The point of main effort lies in the structuring of program development for the so-called interactive services (Langenbucher recommends giving out contracts immediately for their technical preparation), program application, and research into program effect. Technical conditions in Berlin have determined the concept. No additional programs (also no further third ones) are to be authorized.

The announcement that cable television tests will have a "sliding" start in 1982 seems to go back to the manner of proceeding in Munich. The chancery's "conceptual model" from the year 1978 was amplified as a result of the fact that the Federal Constitutional Court's verdict on the Saarland Radio Law does not affect the Bavarian Constitution. This law is the only one that specified, in Article 111a, that only carriers under public law are allowed to make presentations on radio. While putting aside to a certain extent clarification of the calculated finance requirement of approximately DM 20-40 million of investment costs and from DM 40 million to DM 120 million in annual program costs, the solution being striven for is to lay two broad-band cables in the planned city district for the reception of up to 60 television and radio channels. Local programs, third programs, text transmission services, two foreign language programs, space for municipal broadcasts, an "open channel," and possibly two paid programs (Pay-TV)--all this is to be available in Munich. This is to be paid for by means of a lump sum payment on the one hand and direct separate payments for individual programs on the other.

The politicians' desire to translate cable television tests into action hides to a certain extent the rather meager preparations made up to now. Expectations are dampened by the time elapsed to date and the further time required for tests and subsequent scientific investigation. Is all this still going to be realized by 1985 as originally planned? The Stuttgart model is such that it is possible to speak in the meantime of five tests; in Lower Saxony the development is being observed closely; the northern part of the FRG might be "uncoupled" from the media clique. In the political competition of forces, scientists' questions have gone under in the meantime. They want to know: How do program proliferation and individual communication affect people? There is still an opportunity to explore this. It would require that in addition to the many programs offered by cable, wireless programs also be offered for comparison in the same localities and at the same times.

EXPANSIVE CABLE TELEVISION SOUGHT FOR MUNICH AREA

Hamburg DER SPIEGEL in German 10 Aug 81 pp 33-35

[Text] The CDU is pillorying wastefulness in radio and television Bavarian assistance for private broadcasters on cable TV?

Each time they return from another visit over there, top managers from West German TV organizations talk about American television with disgust, at best with scorn. They mention "commercialism run riot," and "electronic horrorvision."

More recently, it seems, the reports about the programming fare of American networks are more friendly. One of those who was recently on the site was positively gushing after his return. "There are neatly wrapped packages lying ready," he reported, "we only need to help ourselves."

The traveling radio man was Rudolf Muehlfenzl, editor-in-chief of Bavarian Television, who is already being spoken of as the director of a future cable broadcasting office in Munich. He had been investigating the cable offerings in the United States as an emissary of the ARD [Working Group of FRG Broadcasting Institutes].

Muehlfenzl's observation of the market will be welcome news in the publicly-licensed broadcasting houses, which are out to bar access to private broadcasters in new media. What the Bavarian programming head saw at "Cable News Network" in the round-the-clock service of TV producer Ted Turner in Atlanta, Georgia--stock market speculations, golf tournaments and complete opera performances--fits into the current program plans of the ARD and CDF [Second German Television Program] for satellitetelevision, which will start in 1985 at the earliest.

Experimental networks for cable programs are being planned in four West German cities --Berlin and Dortmund, Ludwigshafen and Munich--for which an additional charge of 20 pfennigs has already been set on the monthly fees of all radio license holders.

It is clear that private broadcasters will also participate in the cable experiment in Ludwigshafen. The Organization of German Publishers has already set aside the sum of DM 10 million for this purpose. What had been undecided until now was whether the CSU, which is well-disposed to industry, would also open its Munich cablevision for private programmers.

After installation of the cable by the postal service, about 10,000 households in Munich between Gaertnerplatz and Nockherberg will be able to receive the Third

Programs from other Lender, in addition to the ARD and ZDF, as well as foreign broadcasts, for example, from Switzerland and Austria and, where feasible, local television and special sports and cultural offerings.

Many businessmen and social groups would like to earn money from the additional offerings, for which an additional fee must be paid. But they prefer to leave the startup costs to the state and its institutions. The broadcasting offices just for the Munich cable TV will cost around DM 20 million. Bavaria has already included a contribution in exactly this amount in its new budget plan.

The reluctance of private interest groups in the face of the investments is based not only on the unresearched readiness of the viewers to watch, but also on the fact that the Constitutional Court set the "measuring stick very high" (in the words of a Bavarian Radio spokesman) with its June decision in favor of unrestricted commercial television. In Bavaria there is the additional difficulty that the public licensing structure of radio and television was determined by referendum in article 111 a of the Bavarian constitution.

Without the technical equipment and staff and the enormous stock of programs of the Munich institution, the start of cable television in Bavaria will probably not succeed. Long before the decision was reached concerning the fee increase requested by the broadcasting institutions, Bavarian station personnel had taken a look at the American market. They want to go full-force into the new channels--"and not in this piecemeal fashion" (in the words of one of the scouts). They would like best of all to extend their TV monopoly to future programs.

The "readiness of devout people to help," as party leader Franz Josef Strauss jibed recently, came opportunely for opponents of the monopoly in the CDU. The government leader had found out about a confidential 83-page report of the Bavarian supreme court of accounts about Bavarian Radio. After reading it, Strauss said: "It contains some interesting things."

The cabinet chief read on pages 69 and 70, for example, that a radio and television director of broadcasting receives a pension of at least DM 15,000 upon retirement --50 percent more than a full minister in the Bavarian government. Legal officials and directors of Bavarian Radio (BR) receiving close to DM 10,000 in pension payments are also above the retirement pay level of a ministerial secretary.

Moreover, according to the court of accounts, Bavarian broadcasting employees can, at their own request, announce their departure as early as the age of 50 to a comfortably funded retirement in cases of "private or professional stress" or "work-related frustration."

Anyone remaining can expect considerable job and extra-contractual bonuses, in addition to a high salary. The station considers it worthy of special recompense if a department head is particularly successful with a "live television commentary," if a data processor ensures the "punctual running" of a program or if sound engineers in Fasching are able to solve a "multiplicity of technical, acoustic and audio-physiological problems."

CSU vice chairman and leader of the Land party in Bonn, Friedrich Zimmermann, was the first to make the revealing court report public, because he had the impression

that the objections of the budget examiners should be "reread" first "before a possible increase in the radio and television fees."

The CSU criticized principally the "downright gigantic" growth in staff expenses. According to the court, staff costs grew in 4 years by 93.2 percent and next year will account for 91 percent of the total projected income from fees of DM 428 million.

Even subsequent explanations by the director concerning the self-serving prodigality could only moderately improve the overall impression of the court (and the CSU) that the radio and television organization had created a "special place" for itself through a "combination of top salaries from free enterprise and social benefits which in part exceed those of public office."

Annoyed about the sinecures accumulated over the decades, social-Christian broadcasting experts want to stop the institutions, with their fee monopoly, from continuing to have technical progress paid for by listeners and viewers, as was the case with the introduction of television and color television.

The Laender broadcasting companies, pointing to satellite television, cable TV and videotext, have already announced to the "Investigating Committee on Financial Need" formed by the prime minister a monthly surcharge amounting to more than DM 8 on the rate increase, set for the beginning of 1983.

Strauss has frequently criticized publicly licensed broadcasting, has decried the ARD as a "red broadcasting association" and has sought to force Bavarian Radio increasingly under his party's domination.

For years the Bavarian has taken different on radio in private hands than his internal party rival Ernst Albrecht in Hannover, who last year was reprimanded by the judge at the Administrative Court in Berlin during his planned breakup of North German Radio.

Strauss is as sceptical in his judgments on the social effects of commercial program competition, particularly the consequences for families and children, as Albrecht's archenemy Hans-Ulrich Klose, the former mayor of Hamburg. In the same manner as Klose, Strauss expressed his concern to the Bavarian Landtag that by watching too much television "a second life replaces one's primary life, and the good or evil world is no longer experienced personally, but comes secondhand."

There is also the fact that when Strauss actually spoke cautiously in favor of private television, he did not garner only praise from the newspapers, which allegedly angered him. Numerous feuds with daily newspapers or weeklies, most recently with the middle-class-conservative MUENCHENER MERKUR (SPIEGEL 30/1981), have not exactly strengthened his sympathy to publishers' television.

In the matter of cable television and the fee increase the Land leader has apparently yielded to the arguments of his well-paid party friends in the Munich institution. In express contrast to his party vice president (Strauss: "I am different from Zimmermann") he no longer plans to oppose the "unpleasant decision" for a rate increase.

After all, according to the government leader, radio license fees had "the second lowest rate of increase in the public sector" in comparison to charges for the railroad and the postal service.

FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

BRIEFS

MUNICH CABLE TV--In 1982 about 10,000 households in Munich will be able to receive 12 television programs. This time frame can only be adhered to, in the view of the commission for the pilot cable project in Munich, if the state government begins the project soon. The commission, which presented an interim report yesterday, is trying a "bold" project, in the final phase of which between 50 and 60 channels can be offered. According to initial estimates, it will probably cost the TV consumer about DM 1,500 if he wants to utilize all the possibilities of the cable hookup. In its completed state subscription channels for radio, television and the recall of films as well as magazine and newspapers will be available [Text] [Bonn DIE WELT in German 17 Jul 81 p 3] 9581

CSO: 5500/2275

SOUTH TO GET AUTOMATED MOBILE PHONE NET IN 1982

Helsinki HELSINGIN SANOMAT in Finnish 5 Aug 81 p 19

[Article: "South Finland Mobile Phones to be Automated Next Year"]

[Text] Automation will be expanded to include mobile phones also. Automation, which is a joint project of the Nordic countries, will begin in August from Lahti. Southern Finland will transfer to an automated system by the end of next year.

The first outside subscribers to the fully automated mobile phone network will be accepted next February already, states Engineer Kalevi Merontausta of the Postal and Telegraph Administration.

According to a preliminary decision the automated mobile phone system will extend all the way to Rovaniemi in 1986. As the automation is expanded it is estimated that the present number of 25,000 mobile phones will increase by approximately 3,000 annually.

A little less than 100 support stations will be built into the Ruuhka-Suomi automated system. The Swedish LM Ericsson Corporation will manufacture the telephone exchanges, and the domestic firm, Mobira, will build the support stations. More than 10 different enterprises are competing for the mobile phone market.

Number of Channels to Increase by More Than 50 Percent

As automation is expanded the number of mobile phone channels will be increased from 80 to 180. The telephone switching system will be transferred from a manually operated one to a computer operated system.

According to Engineer Merontausta automation will mean more rapid and reliable operations for the mobile phone user. "Also an automated system is less expensive, at least for those who use the phone a lot."

The manually operated system will be retained in the ordering of mobile phones, at least for the duration of this decade. Thus a telephone user can choose, and, for example, it is worthwhile selecting a manually operated hook-up for those who are not frequent users.

According to Merontausta automation of the mobile telephone offers the user

a large step forward. "Automation will eliminate weak connections since a computer will switch a weak connection over to a stronger one."

The Nordic system is from an engineering point of view unique in the world. In the new NMT-system support stations maintain a continuous connection with the telephone network and also with the mobile phones.

The exchanges operating on microprocessors continuously transfer information, on the basis of which billing is accomplished, along the channels without causing any interference on the user's line.

By the end of next year Finland's automated system will cover Helsinki, Turku, Tampere, Hämeenlinna, Lahti, and the southern areas of Kouvola. The majority of the users of mobile phones are in this area.

Sweden Will Begin First

Within the Nordic countries automation will begin first in Sweden where the system will be in operation next October already. There are already approximately 250 primary stations in Sweden.

Denmark's mobile phone network will be automated throughout the whole country by the end of the year. In Norway automation will commence in several communities at the same time.

The adoption of automation will be made easier with the help of Nordic cooperation. For example, Finland will be able to obtain valuable experience from Sweden because of close ties.

At the present time in Finland there are nearly 20,000 mobile phone conversations daily. More than one-fourth of the telephone traffic from cars is in the Helsinki area.

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